

## News from SALEM COUNTY

Office of Public Information

Mr. Robin B. Weinstein, Public Information Officer Office Phone: (856) 935-7510 ext. 8202 After Hours: (856) 297-5433

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## Cañas to Address 9/11 Service

(PILESGROVE TWP., NJ)—Freeholder Director Lee Ware today announced that, with the help of the New Jersey Third Legislative District, Mr. Richard Cañas will be the keynote speaker for the September 11<sup>th</sup> remembrance ceremony to be held at 7 PM at the Salem County Fairgrounds on Friday evening.

"Assemblyman John Burzichelli and the New Jersey Third Legislative District team responded to the Freeholders' call to maintain the tradition of the 9/11 ceremony by providing us with a stellar speaker," said Director Ware. "Mr. Cañas has been involved with homeland security for many years and will be a welcome addition to this time of remembrance."

Richard L. Cañas is the Director of the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness. Cañas comes to his new position with a diverse national security background. He has served as director of the National Drug Intelligence Center, special agent in charge of the Phoenix Drug Enforcement Agency Office in Arizona and special assistant to the Central Intelligence Agency. During four years spanning the administrations of Presidents George H. W. Bush and Bill Clinton, he served as a director on the White House's National Security Council, where he headed the directorate for Counterterrorism and Counternarcotics. Cañas began his public service career as a police officer in Salinas, California, and most recently was a director at Concurrent Technologies Corporation, a national security consulting firm based in Johnstown, PA. Cañas has a Bachelor's degree from San Jose State University and a teaching credential from the University of California at Berkeley.

"With the help of many community members and Mr. Leroy Pierce, we are confident that this year's ceremony will continue the fine tradition of honoring those who lost their lives on September 11<sup>th</sup>," said Director Ware. "We encourage everyone to come to the fairgrounds to honor those who served and remember those who lost their lives on that tragic day."

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